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Patent
Attorney Docket No. 60711.000024

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number : 10/691,653 Confirmation No. 7953
Applicants : Jean-Louis ESCARY
Filed : October 24, 2003
Title : POLYPEPTIDES OF THE IFN α -17 GENE
TC/Art Unit : 1647
Examiner: : Jegatheesan SEHARASEYON
Docket No. : 60711.000024
Customer No. : 21967

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114; AND
AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed June 20, 2006 ("Office Action") Applicant submits herewith a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") and the following Amendment and Reply. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejections set forth in the Office Action.

Applicant are submitting herewith the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) of \$395.00 for an RCE. Applicant submitted a constructive petition for a three (3) month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for responding to the Office Action which was granted on December 20, 2006. Applicant also submitted a Notice of Appeal on December 20, 2006, bring the time to file an RCE without additional fees up to and including February 20, 2007.

In the event that a variance exists between the amount tendered and that deemed necessary by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") to enter and consider this RCE, pay any outstanding fees, or to maintain the present application pending, please charge such variance to the undersigned's **Deposit Account No. 50-0206**.

This RCE is provided in the following format:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2; and

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.